Docket No.: 275412003500

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Kazuhiro TSUCHIDA et al.

Application No.: 10/551,365

Confirmation No.: 3153

Filed: September 28, 2005

Art Unit: 2627

For: SPLITTING ELEMENT, LIGHT EMITTER

AND OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS

Examiner: Lixi Chow

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated March 25, 2009, please amend this application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 6.

Remarks begin on page 7.

An **Appendix** including replacement drawings and an English translation of priority document JP2003-092110 is attached following the Remarks.